



St John's Cathedral 聖公會聖約翰座堂

Anglican Diocese of Hong Kong Island
Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui

*'St John's Cathedral is a place of God's grace, welcoming all,
following Christ and changing lives in the heart of Hong Kong.'*

13TH MARCH 2022 THE SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

9.00am Sung Eucharist

Celebrant: The Revd Canon Peter Koon
Preacher: The Dean
Communion Setting: The Book of Common Prayer Noted (John Merbecke)
Hymns: 381 (omit v.3), 379 (omit v.2,4,5), Church of God,
elect and glorious, O God beyond all praising

12th March Saturday Eucharist (Anticipated service)

6.00pm Holy Eucharist (Cantonese)
<https://youtu.be/yrdsVATr2QQ>

13th March Sunday Eucharist and Choral Evensong

9.00am Sung Eucharist (English)
<https://youtu.be/4VTN9dnEups>

10.30am Holy Eucharist (Mandarin)
<https://youtu.be/n5gCwoXHvLo>

10.30am Holy Eucharist (Filipino)
https://youtu.be/w_05px6c_W8

5.00pm Choral Evensong
<https://youtu.be/cq43Nzu1FqI>

ONLINE
DONATION



<https://www.stjohnscathedral.org.hk/Donation/default.aspx?lang=1>

COLLECT

Almighty God, you show to those who are in error the light of your truth, that they may return to the way of righteousness: grant to all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those things that are contrary to their profession, and follow all such things as are agreeable to the same; through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING

Genesis 15.1-12, 17-18

A reading from the book of Genesis.

The word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the LORD came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be.' And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Then he said to him, 'I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.' But he said, 'O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?' He said to him, 'Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtle-dove, and a young pigeon.' He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him. When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire-pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates,

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

Philippians 3.17-4.1

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Philippians.

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation so that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 13.31-end

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All Glory to you, O Lord.

At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to Jesus, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' He said to

them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord." '

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
All Praise to you, O Christ.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty God, you see that we have no power of ourselves to help ourselves: keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in our souls; that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

FOR YOUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

In the worldwide Anglican Communion we pray for The Anglican Church of Melanesia.

Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui (Anglican Province of Hong Kong & Macau); for the Most Revd Andrew Chan, our archbishop and primate; for our Diocesan Bishop, the Rt Revd Matthias Der, and for all bishops, priests and deacons within our diocese and province.

We pray for St Mark's Church, Macau, the Revd Bartholomew Ma, all the staff, council members and the congregation; for the ministry of family, adults, teenagers and children; for the

ministry of Seac Pai Van in Coloane; for the faith and maturity of church members; for the ministry in Choi Kou School Kindergarten section and SKH Social Services Coordination office; for the evangelistic ministry to all staff in school and social service centers, students, families and target group.

Within the Cathedral Parish we pray for the Cathedral Church and its various congregations, for the Dean and the chaplains; for our daughter churches; St Stephen's Chapel, Stanley, Discovery Bay Church and Emmanuel Church, Pokfulam; and their Priests in Charge. We also remember in our prayers our Council members, Cathedral Staff, Cathedral Servers, Cathedral Sidesmen, Poverty Alleviation Group, our Prison Ministry, Music Ministry, and Lunchtime Recitals.

We also pray for our link Diocese of Tounghoo, Myanmar; pray for the Rt Revd Dr Saw Sheesho, Bishop, and for the parishes where people are suffering from COVID-19 and the lack of vaccines and adequate protective equipment.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for those who are sick:

Leslie Tong, Fung Wan Yuk, Helen Chan Sui Lung, Grace Yuen, Wong Dor Chun, Yvonne Fong, Pekkle Cheng, Kevin Marc Lee, Christina Leong, Dennis Chan, Val Rice, Brigitta Wheele, Daniel Colson, Lo Yuk Wah, Laurie Rooke, Marin Leong Kum Chee, Yee (Zoe) Szeto-Law, Peggy Yu, Tsui Man Fong, JoAnne Sharlach, Tiew Siew Lee, Wong Lai King, Victoria Kwan, Jane Pang Tong, Leung Sze Man, Alice Wright, Joyce Chan, Sanson Lau, Raymond Yuen, Kasper Buist, Christina Poon, John Cavid, Catherine Chan, Lee Sui Sung, Therese Marie Gerarda Chan, Eva Sorrel, Rebecca Crawford, Toungh Ming, Averil Ashley, Tommy Hui, Lene Bille Hoegh, George Fong, Evelena Mathias, Michael Chang, and Heather Little.

We also pray for those who are suffering from COVID-19.

*Please pray for the recently departed:
Paul Bishop, Lau Yiu Kwong, Shum Ching Yue, Chin Yi Kum, Leung Lai Ming, Belinda Chow and Winston Lim.*

In Memoriam: Chew Ming Teck a.k.a. Chou Yi Tong (12th March 2012)

Please remember those named above in your private prayers. To include someone in this prayer list, please contact Elisa, **Tel: 2523 4157**.

A PRAYER AS WE FACE A LOCKDOWN

Loving God,
help us
to focus on what we have
not on what may be removed or changed.

Strengthen us
when we feel discouraged
or overwhelmed.

Embrace us
so that we know your loving presence
within us and among us.

Walk with us
as we bring your love, and carry your light,
into our world.

Amen.

Sandra Lucas, MDiv.



PRAYERS FOR PEACE

The war in Ukraine is bringing destruction and death to a people who want to live in peace and security. Join us to pray for peace in Ukraine, and peace in ourselves, every Friday evening at 8.00pm on Zoom. You may like to have a candle, pen and paper, and maybe a handful of earth ready with you.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85334679522?pwd=STZpQzNpMUlld1BHWDFNaop6Q1FKUT09>



NOTICES

WORSHIP SERVICES AT ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL SUSPENDED

In response to the latest announcement from the House of Bishops of Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui, public worship services and group activities of St John's Cathedral are suspended from the 7th January 2022 until further notice. This extraordinary measure is to minimize public gatherings for the health and safety of all.

St John's Cathedral services will be broadcast through the Cathedral website and on YouTube. Please join us.

By the order of the House of Bishops, the Cathedral is temporarily closed from 10th February 2022 until further notice.

'FAITH BEGINS'

The Christian Faith explored, discussed and enjoyed!

**Wednesday evenings
from 30th March to 22nd June 2022**

'Faith Begins' is a course for adult baptism and confirmation at St John's Cathedral. The course is for people who have been worshipping for at least three months in the cathedral parish.

The course is by Zoom, and explores the Christian faith in a relaxed atmosphere with a talk and informal discussion. 'Faith Begins' is rooted in the Anglican tradition which values the bible, tradition, and reason, and interprets them in the light of a modern understanding about life and the world we live in.

How do I enrol? Just send your contact details to the Revd Amos Poon at amospoon@stjohnscathedral.org.hk

Registration deadline: 27th March 2022

SUBSCRIPTION OF 'THE DAILY WORD' IN THE YOUTUBE CHANNEL

It is about a year since the Province of Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui launched 'The Daily Word' on Ash Wednesday in 2021, the Communication Team of the Steering Committee of the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Church Policy Paper would like to invite all the church members again to subscribe 'The Daily Word' in the YouTube channel and make use of this resource for their daily devotion to strengthen their spiritual life. Please send the following YouTube link to your church members, inviting them to subscribe and press the bell, in order to receive the notification.

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvoQNAlJ5a8a0o4Plgxn_ow/featured

PASTORAL LETTER FROM THE HKSKH HOUSE OF BISHOPS

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

'Do not fear, for I am with you, do not be afraid, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my victorious right hand.'
(Isaiah 44:10)

As the pandemic rages on, and as Russia and Ukraine plunge ever deeper into conflict, it is all the more important for us to stay true to our Father's promise. For he is with us, and he has not abandoned us. When we can look up to him with steadfast faith, and we the faithful can brave the waves together, the time will come when we shall finally reach the shores under the protection of our Lord. Be not afraid, for our Lord Jesus walks with us, and the church is a constant companion in our times of fear and doubt. Whenever you are in need, please contact your clergy who are here for you.

Lent is here, and for forty days it is customary for the church to ask the faithful to undergo a period of simplicity, discipline, and self-denial, such that we can place our lives entirely in the hands of God, and be closer to him. In these forty days, let us dedicate more time to bible reading, praying, meditation, self-reflection, and reading devotional books. Let us allow ourselves to be guided by the Holy Spirit, and be renewed and transformed. Let us turn away from sin, and return to the way of holiness.

Lent is a time we examine the darkness and weaknesses in our lives. The love of God will guide us through the death and resurrection of Christ that we may also overcome darkness and enter the life of light.

There are three main things that we should all take heed of during Lent:

(1) Fasting is a tradition common amongst many Christians during Lent. In modern times, this would mean cutting off certain pleasures from our daily lives as a form of self-denial, perhaps reducing the hours we spend on the Internet, on video games, online shopping, or how much chocolate we eat. On top of these, it is important that we try to put away the negativity and pessimism that arose from this ongoing pandemic. The virus has been with us for more than two years now, and many feel desperate, lost, and hopeless at the situation. Some find themselves trapped in a dark and dismal state. In this Lent, we need to say 'No' to such hopelessness, and let the faithfulness of God and his loving protection be the transforming agent to our negativity and stress. The purpose of Lenten fasting is to teach people not to focus on our weakness, but to understand the greatness and truth of our heavenly father. Let us not be pulled down by the pandemic this year, but rather, raise our eyes to meet the face of God above, and let his tender mercy come upon us. For he is our sure refuge, and with him, we can find the strength and faith to face everything.

(2) During Lent, as we try to stay away from sins, we should also seek to make our lives well-pleasing to God. As we face rising unemployment, decreasing income, and the prospect of being kept in quarantine or COVID testing, what can we do to glorify God and to help others? We can help those who are in need. For example, teaching the elderly who may not know how to operate all sorts of pandemic-related mobile applications, and who do not know how to find the latest information about the pandemic. We should help those who come from low-income households, that they may live a stable life amidst these uncertainties. We should also check on our brothers and sisters in Christ frequently via phone calls and messages. As we are

stuck at home, we should take the opportunity to spend the time understanding our family members better, that our bonds and love may grow deeper. In these difficult times, we are to look after each other, to help one another, and to dedicate even more love and care to those around us. These are the times when we learn to love one another.

(3) As we pray and meditate throughout this Lent, it is also a great opportunity for us to learn to 'wait'. Though we cannot fully understand God's plans for this pandemic, and while we pray for worldwide recovery, we hold firm the belief that our God is the God of history. As we seek peace in our prayers, we must not forget the infected and their families, and pray that God may heal and protect them. We pray as well for all the front end and support staff who worked tirelessly against the pandemic, especially our medical workers, COVID testers, and government officials. May God grant them wisdom and strength. We pray for those who are waiting to be admitted into hospitals and those who are quarantined at home, that they may find peace and health. May God look with favour upon those who have fallen into economic difficulties, and may God grant us all peace and faith, that we may march on in these pandemic times, and persevere against all odds. May we turn to the example of St Paul, that we could 'Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, and persevere in prayer'. May we find true communion in God through prayers.

The Lenten season is a time for reshaping our lives. With this ongoing pandemic, let us rediscover the truth that our very existence is in the loving care of God. With faith, we may walk each day with God, and with his power we can each day drive back darkness. May God guide us through a meaningful Lent, and may God protect us, that the pandemic may come to an end soon. May his peace prevail, and may God bless each of us.

++ Andrew Chan +Timothy Kwok +Matthias Der

LENT COURSES 2022

This Lent, the Province of HKSKH encourages all parishes and missionary churches to study together the book '**Turn**', from a series called 'The Way of Love'. The book encourages Christians to follow Jesus' Way of Love by turning towards God: pause, listen, and choose to follow Jesus in our daily life.

You can join one of the courses with the Cathedral clergy, in different languages. Let us journey spiritually together in this Lent. (*Course material will be available at the Cathedral Bookstore.*)

COURSES ON ZOOM *Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, 2nd March 2022.

Tuesdays (Starting on 8th March) **8.00pm (English)**

Zoom Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89496426367?pwd=dnNnZm9sbVJKU3dSMDR6YjhiVkjadzo9>

Wednesdays (Starting on 2nd March) **2.30pm (Cantonese)**

Please contact the Revd Amos Poon at amospoon@stjohnscathedral.org.hk

Fridays (Starting on 4th March) **3.00pm (English)**

Please contact the Revd Amos Poon at amospoon@stjohnscathedral.org.hk

Sundays (Starting on 13th March) **3.00pm (Filipino)**

Please contact the Revd Sharon Langbis at sharonlangbis@stjohnscathedral.org.hk

NOTICES

ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL MICHAELMAS FAIR 2022

You can order your **Christmas stockings** with names for Christmas times 2022. Each stocking costs \$100. Order forms are available at the Cathedral office and on the shelves at the entrance of the Church. Payments can be made in cash to Mr Thomas Li, our Executive Administrator, or by crossed cheque, payable to St John's Cathedral.

Order deadline: 31st March 2022

For enquiries, please contact Mrs June Li at Tel: 2849 6057
or Mr Thomas Li at Tel: 2523 4157.



Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council ACT OF LOVE EPIDEMIC HOTLINE

The Covid-19 outbreak has been going on for more than two years and has affected the livelihood of the Hong Kong community. In February this year, the fifth wave of the epidemic began with a raging fury. Recently, the public's use of rapid antigen tests has led to a record number of confirmed cases and a surge in the number of people staying at home for quarantine, who are often at a loss for immediate support.

Given this, the Welfare Council, with the support of the Archbishop, has launched the 'Act of Love Epidemic Hotline' to provide financial assistance, social support, emotional counselling, spiritual support, in-kind donation and information to parishes and the Sheng Kung Hui communities in need. If you need help, please call 8203 9072 or log on to the online platform with the QR code to make an appointment. Our social workers will follow up on the cases.

We also appeal to all brothers and sisters to join us as volunteers to support those affected by the epidemic. Please use the QR code below to register as a volunteer.

Last but not least, we hope that you would support the work of Act of Love by making a generous donation using the QR code below. If you have any enquiries, please contact our social worker, Ms Ami Ying, at 2533 1214.



Online Platform for Making
Appointment
https://bit.ly/aolsupport_skh



Volunteer Registration Form
https://bit.ly/aolsupport_volunteer



Online Donation in support of
"Act of Love"
<https://donation.skhwc.org.hk/hk/fund-donation/Act-of-Love>

DONATION TO THE 'KEEP IT UP! FIGHTING AGAINST THE EPIDEMIC' DONATION PROGRAMME

Elderly and Rehabilitation Homes Urgently need Your Support

With the severe epidemic in the Territories, the 9 elderly homes and 3 rehabilitation homes under the Hong Kong Sheng Kung Hui Welfare Council, with over 1,200 workers and 2,000+ residents, are in dire straits. We urgently need donations to meet the following special expenses.

1. The manpower market for the Homes is very tight. The Homes need to hire temporary workers at 2-3 times the salary together with additional hardship allowances for staff working in the infected areas and accommodation subsidies, resulting in a significant increase in frontline labour costs.
2. To protect our staff and residents, we need a wide range of anti-epidemic supplies on an ongoing basis, including the Rapid Test Kits, Oximeters, disposable gowns, eye protection, protective caps, face masks, surgical masks, disinfectants, etc. We also have to pay for expensive disposal costs of the medical wastes.
3. To ensure the sanitation and cleanliness of the service units, there is an ongoing need for funding to hire qualified suppliers to disinfect the units thoroughly.

Please donate to support us : https://bit.ly/support_skhwc

For enquiries

☎ Tel: 2533 1296

✉ Email: donation@skhwc.org.hk

ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL MINISTRY TEAM

Dean

The Very Revd Kwok-keung Chan

Clergy Ministry Co-ordinators:

Chinese Ministry —
The Revd Canon Peter Koon
The Revd Amos Poon

Christian Education — The Revd Will Newman
(*Priest-In-Charge of St Stephen's Chapel, Stanley*)

Filipino Ministry —
The Revd Canon Dwight dela Torre
The Revd Sharon Langbis
Liturgy and Spirituality — The Revd Robert Martin
(*Priest-In-Charge of Emmanuel Church, Pokfulam*)

Mission and Ministry — The Revd Amos Poon
Outreach — The Revd Mark Rogers
(*Priest-In-Charge of Discovery Bay Church*)

Youth Ministry — The Revd Amos Poon

Honorary Chaplain:

The Revd Dr Philip Wickeri

Executive Administrator:

Mr Thomas Li

Serving the wider community:

SJC Counselling Service
Mission for Migrant Workers
SJC Life Enrichment Centre
Cathedral Bookstore
CLARES/Castaways
Prison Ministry



Information about St John's Cathedral and its ministries can be found on the notice boards and on the website: www.stjohnscathedral.org.hk. Clergy are here to listen and help. Please feel free to speak to one of them after the services, or make contact during the week: St John's Cathedral, 4-8 Garden Road, Central Tel: 2523 4157